



State Senator
Ron Jelinek

P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing, MI 48909-7536

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FISHING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

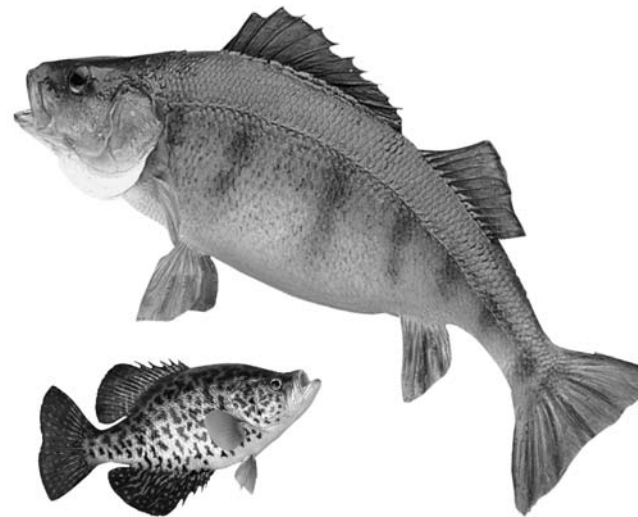
- You must purchase a license if you are 17 years of age or older. If you are under 17, you may fish without a license, but you are required to observe all fishing rules and regulations.
- You must have the license in your possession when fishing and the identification used to purchase that license.
- Your fishing license is valid from March 1 of a given year through March 31 of the following year.

TO PURCHASE A FISHING LICENSE, YOU MUST HAVE:

- A valid Michigan Driver License.
- A valid Michigan ID Card (issued by the Secretary of State) with additional proof of Michigan residency, such as a Michigan voter registration card.
- A DNR Sportcard (issued by license dealers). If the information on your DNR Sportcard from a previous year is still accurate, you may continue to use it.

TO QUALIFY FOR A RESIDENT FISHING LICENSE, YOU MUST:

- Be a person who resides in a settled or permanent home or domicile within the boundaries of this state with the intention of remaining in this state, or
- Be a full-time student at a Michigan college or university, or
- Serve full time in the U.S. Military and be officially stationed in Michigan.



MICHIGAN FISHING UPDATE

COURTESY OF
STATE SENATOR
**RON
JELINEK**

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Dear Friend:

With more than 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, over 11,000 inland lakes and more than 36,000 miles of rivers and streams, Michigan offers some of the best freshwater fishing around!

Whether sport fishing on one of the big lakes, or dropping a line downtown, I hope you and your family enjoy great fishing this season. If my office can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me toll-free at 1-866-305-2121 or by e-mail at senrjelinek@senate.michigan.gov.

Best Wishes,

Ron Jelinek
State Senator
21st District

HELP PROTECT WATERS FROM INVASIVE PESTS

Michigan waters are threatened by non-native aquatic nuisance species (ANS) such as the zebra mussel and round goby. These intruders have invaded the Great Lakes basin, mostly through the dumping of ballast water from ocean-going ships. Thanks to Senate legislation, a new law will control the discharge of ballast water from ocean-going vessels. Anglers can take action to help prevent the spread of these species.

Follow these clean boating tips:

- Remove all visible aquatic plants and animals from your boat, motor, trailer, and accessory equipment before leaving the access area.
- Dispose of live bait and aquatic animals in the trash. Do not release live bait into the water.
- Drain live wells and all water from boats before leaving the access area.
- Power wash boats and trailers wherever possible or dry all equipment thoroughly.
- Allow boat to dry for at least 5 days before launching into a different water body.

Anglers can also help protect Michigan waters by buying a Great Lakes Protection Fund Decal at www.michigan.gov/michiganmall. The cost is \$35 with \$25 going to support research and education to control these pests.



2006-2008 MICHIGAN FISHING GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE

As of April 1, 2006, all anglers will be required to have a 2006 Michigan Fishing License. Copies of the new 2006-2008 Michigan Fishing Guide and the Inland Trout & Salmon Guide are available at all license vendors around the state and online. Anglers will want to pay close attention to the "Major Regulation Changes" listed on page 3 in the Fishing Guide and below.



You can obtain a copy of the 2006-2008 Michigan Fishing Guide at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

MAJOR REGULATION CHANGES

Statewide — Catch and Immediate Release Bass Regulations

See Note 2 on p. 8 and common terms on p. 18. Anglers please note: for this type of fishing the use of artificial lures can reduce mortality.

Statewide — Gear Restrictions

The fishing method commonly known as "dropshotting" is now legal on inland lakes, Great Lakes, and Great Lakes connecting waters only. Drop-shotting is a method whereby a weight is suspended below a hook that is tied directly to the fishing line. This gear may not be used on rivers, streams, or drowned river mouths (see Note 3 on p. 6).

Great Lakes — Lake Trout

Lake trout regulation changes have occurred in several management units of Lake Huron, Lake Michigan and Lake Superior, see Table 1 p. 6.

Lake Huron — Splake In Lake Huron

Lake trout and splake open seasons and size restrictions are the same, see Table 1 p. 6.

Lake Erie — Walleye

The possession season for walleye is now open all year, see Table 2 p. 8.

Lake Michigan Waters of Green Bay — Walleye

See Note 3 on p. 9.

Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters — Lake Sturgeon

New regulations are in place, see Table 6 p. 12.



FISHING NEWS

Introduce a friend to fishing during **Michigan's Free Fishing Weekend** held June 10-11, 2006. Residents and out-of-state visitors can fish without a license for this weekend only. All fishing regulations still apply. Visit www.michigan.gov/dnr for more information about special programs. You can also search the fish stocking database, check the "Weekly Fishing Report," and access bathymetry maps of many Michigan inland lakes at the site.

Families can enjoy fishing fun this summer at one of the 20 Michigan State Parks and Recreation Areas that host a weekly **Fishing in the Parks** program. Instruction and fishing is free. Kids under age 17 don't need to have a license. Find a list of the participating parks and phone numbers at www.michigan.gov/dnr.



FACTS AND FIGURES

- Eight states and two Canadian provinces make up the Great Lakes Basin. Michigan is the only state with its complete land mass in the Basin.
- With over 11,000 inland lakes, Michigan contains 1,399 square miles of inland water.
- Michigan has more shoreline than any other state except Alaska.
- Michigan has nearly 1 million registered boaters who contribute over \$2 billion to the economy each year. Anglers contribute another \$2 billion.

Certain kinds and sizes of fish from the Great Lakes and from some inland lakes and streams contain chemicals that may be harmful if those fish are eaten too often. The **Michigan Fish Advisory** shows which fish are okay to eat and how often they can be eaten. Access this guide at www.michigan.gov/mdch - click on Statistics and Reports. For the most up-to-date advice, call the Michigan Department of Community Health at 1-800-648-6942.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

DNR Fisheries Division:

517-373-1280

Weekly Fishing Report:

517-373-0908

Report a Poacher (RAP) Hotline:

1-800-292-7800

Buy a Fishing License online:

www.mdnr-elicence.com/welcome.asp

Game Fish Finder:

www.mcgi.state.mi.us/MRBIS/fishsearch.asp

Michigan Master Angler State Records:

www.michigandnr.com/FISH/MasterAngler.asp

Weather and River Flow Report:

<http://weather.gov>